

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE  
STATE OF IOWA COMMISSION OF ELDER AFFAIRS  
April 3, 2003**

**Present:** Harold Davis  
Jane Paulsen  
Hazel Chuck  
Craig Downing  
Clemmie Hightower  
J. Russell Lowe  
Yogesh Shah

**ABSENT:** Senator Joe Bolkcom  
Senator David Johnson  
Representative Todd Taylor

**Others Present:** Mark Haverland, Mary Ann Young, Sherry James

**Call to Order**

The business meeting of the Commission of Elder Affairs was held on April 3, 2003.

Chairperson Harold Davis called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. The Recording Secretary conducted roll call. The following Commissioner's answered roll call: Harold Davis, Jane Paulsen, Hazel Chuck, Russell Lowe, Clemmie Hightower, Craig Downing, Yogesh Shah. A quorum was present.

**Agenda**

Action: Commissioner Paulsen moved, Commissioner Lowe seconded, the agenda be approved as printed. A roll call vote determined all Commission members present voted "aye".

**Appointment of Commission Members and Election of Officers**

Mark reported the department received notification from Governor Vilsack that Russ Lowe and Jane Paulsen have been reappointed to a four year term as commissioner of the Department of Elder Affairs. Iowa Code 231.13 reads "Members of the commission shall elect from the commission's membership a chairperson, and other officers as commission members deem necessary, who shall serve for a period of two years."

Action: Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Chuck seconded, to re-elect Harold Davis as Chair and Jane Paulsen as Vice Chair for another two year term. A roll call vote resulted in all commissioners present voting "aye".

### **Minutes**

Action: Commissioner Hightower moved, Commissioner Paulsen seconded, to approve the minutes of January 9, 2003 and February 7, 2003 as written. All Commissioners present voted "aye".

### **Director's Report**

Mark Haverland reported the Assisted Living Program Summit is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Airport Holiday Inn. There will be representatives from 5 states and Robert Mollica, National Association. There are approximately 60 attendees registered at this time.

The Department has started working on a Long Term Care Plan as required by the Senior Living Coordinator's Unit. A steering committee is being formed to begin the task force.

The Auditors have completed their semi-annual audit and have reported an attendance issue to management. The Code reads that missing three regularly scheduled meetings in a row or more than half of the meetings in a year constitutes a voluntary resignation from the Commission. Two Commission members fell into this category. We have submitted a letter to the Governor reporting this finding and asked him to reappoint those Commissioners to fulfill their term. Mark told the Commissioners they are a very valuable asset to our department and he appreciated all the work they did. He reminded them to be cautious of their attendance in the future.

Mark gave a brief update on the budget. Reductions in General Fund were off set dollar-by-dollar in increasing in Senior Living Trust budget.

### **Legislative Update**

Mark gave an update on legislative issues. The technical bill brings the Elder Iowan's Act into compliance with the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. This bill was voted out of the House and now moves to the Senate.

The Assisted Living bill was voted out of the House Human Resources standing committee and is now in the House Appropriations standing committee. The IDEA is working collaboratively with advocacy groups and the IDIA to ensure consumer rights are addressed. Consumer concerns are focused on the rights of the tenant in

the event of an involuntary discharge, ability of consumers and at the general public to access occupancy agreements and the safe and orderly transfer of tenants during any discharge proceeding. Representative Upmeyer chairs the sub-committee for this bill and has done a great job of working with DEA staff for clarification of language.

The Adult Day Services bill establishes a system of oversight for Iowa's Adult Day Service Industry. The Assisted Living and Adult Day Services bills would create good public policy.

The Elder Abuse bill would identify more people needing help. There are currently 4 pilot demonstration projects doing the Elder Abuse Initiative. Commission Shah reported he had received information from Senator Harkin's staff regarding additional funding for Elder Abuse Awareness. DEA staff will visit with Dr. Shah for more details.

The Medicaid Reform bill is the shell that will be used for the Medicaid Redesign.

Area Agencies on Aging are concerned about a bill that will take the case management away from AAA's and move it to the Central Point of Coordination. The Legislation determines level of care issues. This could be a serious problem for Iowa's Seniors if it is approved.

### **Rural Alzheimer's Demonstration Grant Update**

Ann Bossen, Project Coordinator of the Alzheimer's Rural Demonstration Grant, provided a review of grant accomplishments to date and discussions regarding future Alzheimer's grant initiatives.

The original purpose of the project is two-fold:

- To demonstrate a nurse care managed service delivery system model for persons with ADRD and their families.
- To demonstrate a structure community development strategy to increase access to and use of community-based support services.

To date, 257 persons with memory loss have been enrolled in the project in eight counties across the state. The project involves the three Alzheimer's Chapters and currently, three of the thirteen AAA's. Ms. Bossen reviewed client characteristics, service use trends, caregiver outcomes, etc.

The third year of the grant will be completed by June 30, 2003. Discussions are underway to either extend the grant for one more year or to develop a new grant application related to dementia.

## **Other**

The Governor's Conference on Aging will be May 19 and 20. Commissioners will be asked to participate with the Shining Star awards.

There will be a joint meeting with DEA staff and I4A on Wednesday, May 7.

DEA has reserved a booth in the Varied Industries Building at the Iowa State Fair this year. We will be asking for volunteers to assist DEA staff in attending the booth. DEA staff will also be coordinating the Older Iowan's Day on August 13 at the State Fair.

Mary Ann reported the Senior Internship Program (SIP) has exceeded expectations and requirements. There were 32 placements as of March 31 and the requirement is 49 by June 30.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 16 at 10:00 at the Urbandale Public Library.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 pm.

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Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date